

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer, comprising:
 - a main body;
 - a display rotatably connected to the main body;
 - a latch member movable between closed and release latching positions, wherein when the latch member is in the closed position the display is prevented from rotatably moving to an orientation allowing for viewing of the display by a user of the computer;
 - a latch switch generating a contact signal when the latch member is at the releasing position; and
 - a controller supplying electric power to a system of the computer if the latch switch generates a contact signal.
2. The computer of claim 1, wherein when the latch member is at an intermediate position between the closed and release positions the display is rotatably moved to the orientation allowing for viewing of the display without the latch switch generating the contact signal.
3. The computer of claim 2, further comprising a latch cover with a protrusion protruding in a transverse direction from a predetermined movement zone of the latch member, to come into contact with the protrusion when the latch member transitions from the closed position to the intermediate position between the closed and releasing positions.
4. The computer of claim 1, further comprising a main power switch provided on the main body, wherein the controller supplies electric power to the system of the computer if one of a turn-on signal from the main power switch and the contact signal from the latch switch is generated.
5. The computer of claim 2, further comprising a main power switch provided on the main body, wherein the controller supplies electric power to the system of the computer if one of a turn-on signal from the main power switch and the contact signal from the latch switch is generated.

6. The computer of claim 3, further comprising a main power switch provided on the main body, wherein the controller supplies electric power to the system of the computer if one of a turn-on signal from the main power switch and the contact signal from the latch switch is generated.

7. The computer of claim 4, wherein the controller cuts off electric power of the system if the latch switch generates the contact signal while electric power is being supplied to the system.

8. The computer of claim 5, wherein the controller cuts off electric power of the system if the latch switch generates the contact signal while electric power is being supplied to the system.

9. The computer of claim 6, wherein the controller cuts off electric power of the system if the latch switch generates the contact signal while electric power is being supplied to the system.

10. The computer of claim 1, wherein when the display is latched to the main body, the display can be unlatched from the main body without the latch switch generating the contact signal.

11. A method of powering a computer, with the computer having a main body rotatably connected to a display and a latch for latching the main body and the display together, comprising:

moving a latch member of the latch from a latching position to a releasing position; and
initiating a powering of the computer when the latch member is at the releasing position.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein when computer is already powered, and the latch member is at the releasing position, a shutdown of the computer is initiated.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein when the latch member is at an intermediate position, before reaching a releasing position, the display can be rotatably opened from the main body without the computer initiating the powering of the computer.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the latch member contacts a protrusion, in the latch and in the movable zone of the latch member, the latch member is prevented from proceeding to the releasing position without sufficient force to move the latch member past the protrusion such that the latch member is in the intermediate position.

15. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
initiating a powering of the computer when a main power button on the main body is pressed.

16. A portable computer, comprising:
a main body;
a display rotatably connected to the main body;
a latching portion provided in one of the main body and the display;
a latch member provided in the other one of the main body and the display, opposing the latching portion, and movable between a latching position, where the latch member is latched in the latching portion such that the display is prevented from opening, and a releasing position, where the latch member is released from the latching portion;
a latch switch adjacent to the latch member, such that the latch switch contacts the latch member and generates a contact signal when the latch member is at the releasing position; and
a controller supplying electric power to a system of the computer if the latch switch generates the contact signal.

17. The portable computer of claim 16, wherein when the latch member is at an intermediate position between the latching and release positions the display is released, to be rotatably movable to an orientation allowing for viewing of the display, without the latch switch generating the contact signal.